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Agenda item 99 (a)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 31st and 46th meetings, on 3 November and 3 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.31 and 46).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.20 and A/C.2/54/L.63

2. At the 31st meeting, on 3 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

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Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade" (A/C.2/54/L.20) which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* the importance and the continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 45/234 of 21 December 1990, 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993, 49/92 of 19 December 1994, 51/173 of 16 December 1996 and 53/178 of 15 December 1998 on the implementation of the Declaration and Strategy, and the Agenda for Development,

"*Recalling* also the results, as agreed, of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

"2. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy in the remaining year of the 1990s, in collaboration with, *inter alia*, efforts taken in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and its implementing arm, the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

"3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant international organizations, to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration at its fifty-fifth session an analytic report containing a final evaluation of the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration and the Strategy, including the progress achieved and the constraints encountered therein;

"4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Committee on Development Policy, to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium, with the aim of giving further impetus to international cooperation for development and of monitoring long-term trends in the global economy as well as the attainment of internationally agreed targets, taking into account:

"(a) The dynamic changes in the world economy as a result of globalization, interdependence and liberalization and the rapid advances in science and technology;

"(b) The outcome, *inter alia*, of the Agenda for Development, the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held during the current decade, and any other relevant ongoing processes on international cooperation for development;

"5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session to initiate consultations with all Member States with the view to establishing the modalities for the consideration and conclusion of the proposal of the Secretary-General called for in paragraph 4 above at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

"6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled 'Sustainable development and international cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade' "

3. At the 46th meeting, on 3 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the Interna... nal Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade" (A/C.2/54/L.63), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.20.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.63 (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.63, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.20 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 45/234 of 21 December 1990, 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993, 49/92 of 19 December 1994, 51/173 of 16 December 1996 and 53/178 of 15 December 1998 on the implementation of the Declaration and the Strategy, and the Agenda for Development,[1]

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

Recalling also the results, as agreed, of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[2] on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

2. *Recognizes* the efforts made to implement the Declaration and the Strategy in the 1990s, and stresses the need to strengthen such actions in collaboration with, *inter alia*, efforts taken in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[3] and its implementing arm, the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;[4]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as other relevant international organizations, to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session an update of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Committee on Development Policy, to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium, with the aim of giving further impetus to international cooperation for development and of monitoring long-term trends in the global economy as well as the attainment of internationally agreed targets:

(a) Building on the outcomes, *inter alia*, of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held during the 1990s, the Agenda for Development[1] and any other relevant ongoing processes related to international cooperation for development;

(b) Taking into account the dynamic changes to the world economy resulting from, *inter alia*, globalization, interdependence and liberalization and the rapid advances in science and technology;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session to initiate consultations with all Member States with a view to establishing the modalities for the consideration and conclusion of the proposal of the Secretary-General called for in paragraph 4 above at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Sustainable development and international cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

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[2] A/54/389.

[3] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[4] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 99 (b)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 25th, 42nd, 46th and 47th meetings, on 28 October and 18 November and on 3 and 7 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.25, 42, 46 and 47).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.12 and A/C.2/54/L.33

2. At the 25th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda" (A/C.2/54/L.12) which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 53/180 of 15 December 1998, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that the special session for an overall review and appraisal of the

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/53/587 and Add.1-8.

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implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) would be held in June 2001 for a period of three working days, and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the Preparatory Committee for the special session,

"*Having considered* the report of the Preparatory Committee for the special session on its organizational session,

"1. *Endorses* the decisions of the Preparatory Committee, in particular regarding its rules of procedure and the dates, venue and provisional agenda for its first substantive session;

"2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled 'Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)'."

3. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda" (A/C.2/54/L.33), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.12.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.33 (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

5. In the light of the adoption of the draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.33, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.12 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.13 and A/C.2/54/L.66

6. At the 25th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/54/L.13), which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

"*Further recalling* its resolutions 52/190 of 18 December 1997 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to decisions of Habitat II and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

"*Also recalling* its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on environment and human settlements,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

"*Having also considered* the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,

"1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;

"2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to strengthen the normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to effectively exercise its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

"3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and further welcomes the decision of the Commission on Human Settlements mandating the Executive Director to implement the Centre's new strategic vision comprehensively through the launching of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign on Urban Governance;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, in accordance with the relevant United Nations rules and regulations;

"5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/242;

"6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities;

"7. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure the provision of sufficient financial support to the Centre;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide additional resources from the regular budget to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

"9. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to devote its coordination segment in the year 2000 to human settlements issues and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council under the segment along with its recommendations be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)';

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)'."

7. At the 47th meeting, on 7 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/54/L.66), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.13.

8. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications pertaining to draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.66.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.66 (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.66, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolution recommended by the Commission on Human Settlements

11. At the 46th meeting, on 3 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), informed the Committee on the outcome of the informal consultations held on a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)", which was recommended by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session for adoption by the General Assembly.[1]

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 13, draft resolution III).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/180 of 15 December 1998, in which, *inter alia*, it decided that the special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) would be held in June 2001 for a period of three working days, and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the Preparatory Committee for the special session,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as Preparatory Committee for the special session on its organizational session,[2]

1. *Endorses* the decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the Preparatory Committee for the special session, in particular regarding its rules of procedure and the dates, venue and provisional agenda for its first substantive session;[3]

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.1, resolution 17/1.

[2] See A/54/322.

[3] Ibid., chaps. V and VI.

Draft resolution II
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[4] and the Habitat Agenda,[5] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

Recalling also its resolutions 52/190 of 18 December 1997 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling further its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 concerning environment and human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,[6]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;[6]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to strengthen the capacity of the Centre, in particular the normative area, and to improve the linkages between the normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to effectively exercise its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[5]

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and encourages the Executive Director to implement fully, as a matter of urgency, all administrative and financial management reforms, as part of the ongoing revitalization process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, including, in particular, improving the status of women in the Secretariat, and bearing in mind the need for recruitment of qualified staff in accordance with the relevant United Nations rules and regulations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/242;

6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country;

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[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[5] Ibid., annex II.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8).

8. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001, and reiterates the recognition by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session that this implementation will require substantial additional funding and its request to the Executive Director to raise more funds from all sources and to broaden the donor base;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

10. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to discuss human settlements issues at its coordination segment in 2000 and to have as its sectoral theme the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda[7], and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council on the question, along with the recommendations of the Council thereon, be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

Draft resolution III
Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements and 53/180 of 15 December 1998 on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Noting that the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001 approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session,[8] in line with General Assembly resolution 52/192, is organized according to the structure of the Habitat Agenda,

Noting also that the two subprogrammes of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001 correspond to the goals of the Habitat Agenda[9] adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world,

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and its emphasis on two global campaigns — on secure tenure

[7] See Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999.

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.2, resolution 17/20.

[9] Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

and urban governance — are strategic points of entry for effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the need for the Centre adequately to perform this role through the active mobilization and broadening of its network of United Nations, governmental and non-governmental partners,

Stressing the need to provide strategic support to the efforts of local authorities and partners from civil society in the global, regional and local implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

1. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to take initiatives and continue with their specific actions towards the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[9]

2. *Also calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies that have not yet done so to identify specific initiatives and actions to be undertaken in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Invites* the United Nations coordinator system to strengthen its support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda through, *inter alia*, assistance in the implementation of national local plans of action based on the full involvement of local authorities and partners from civil society;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to initiate preparations for reporting on in-country implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in line with the recommendations by the Commission on Human Settlements as described in its resolution 17/1 of 14 May 1999,[10] with a view to contributing fully to the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly to be held in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda including the strengthening and activation, wherever necessary, of national coordination mechanisms, inclusive of local authorities and civil society partners, along the models pioneered at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

5. *Invites* all Member States in a position to do so to provide financial resources for the preparatory process for the special session, in particular to enable least developed countries and their national civil-society partners to prepare adequately for and be fully involved in the preparatory process and the special session itself.

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[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.1.

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 99 (c)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 33rd and 44th meetings, on 8 November and 1 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.33 and 44).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.21 and A/C.2/54/L.52

2. At the 33rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/54/L.21), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolution 52/195 of 18 December 1997 and all other Assembly resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the resolutions and the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the integration of women in development,

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"*Reaffirming* the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

"*Recalling* the ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women",

"*Reaffirming* that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development and that investing in the development of women has a multiplier effect in this regard,

"*Recognizing* the significant contribution that women make to economic activities and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

"*Reaffirming* that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

"*Recognizing* that the rapid development of information technology and other new technologies presents both opportunities and challenges to women, in particular in developing countries,

"*Concerned* that the continued discrimination against women, and the denial or lack of equal rights and access to, *inter alia*, education and training, employment opportunities, capital, technology and other areas of production hinder them from achieving their full potential,

"*Recognizing* that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

"*Aware* that, although globalization and liberalization processes may have created employment opportunities for women in some countries, they have made women in developing countries, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, more vulnerable to increased economic volatility, job insecurity and loss of livelihood,

"*Recognizing* that in the field of agriculture women have been disproportionately affected by the negative effects of market liberalization, since the opening of local markets to cheaper imports and the removal of agricultural subsidies have in general led to the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men,

"*Emphasizing* the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to credit by women,

"*Recognizing* that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that data collection on its important contribution should be improved,

"*Expressing its concern* about the poor representation of women in economic decision- making and stressing the importance of inculcating a gender perspective in policy formulation and implementation,

"*Recognizing* that an increase in paid employment may not always mean empowerment for women since, in general, the burden of household work and primary responsibility of women for childcare in many instances give rise to an onerous double working day for most women,

"*Stressing* the need for a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate working hours, affordable childcare and flexible working hours, and emphasizing the principle of shared responsibility between women and men for the achievement of gender equality,

"*Noting* the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the 1999 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Globalization, Gender and Work;

"2. *Calls* for the speedy and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action and the relevant provisions contained in the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits and, in this regard, expresses the hope that the special session of the General Assembly on questions and issues related to women scheduled for the year 2000 can take tangible and significant steps to enhance the effective participation of women in development;

"3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

"4. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all aspects of policy-making, and also to develop national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

"5. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, technology and economic resources, to increase and improve access to credit facilities, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

"6. *Recognizes* the role of microcredit in the eradication of poverty, empowerment of women and generation of employment and, in this regard, encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including the support of international financial institutions;

"7. *Stresses* the need for assistance that would enable women in developing countries to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

"8. *Urges* Governments to design and revise laws that would ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including

through the right of inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures that would give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies, access to markets and information;

"9. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision- making and policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities can be adequately reflected in national policy;

"10. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, *inter alia*, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

"11. *Stresses* the need for Governments and employers to implement policies aimed at ensuring stability and security of work and to put in place social insurance policies that cover temporary, part-time, informal sector and home workers, a majority of whom are women;

"12. *Calls upon* the international community to implement policies to ensure the stabilization of capital flows in order to prevent excess volatility and economic disruption which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

"13. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development;

"14. *Calls upon* developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries, so as to enable the developing countries to implement strategies to eradicate poverty, promote productive employment and achieve gender equality;

"15. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

"16. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;

"17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

3. At the 44th meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Women in development" (A/C.2/54/L.52), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.21.

4. In introducing the draft resolution, the Vice-Chairman orally revised operative paragraph 11 by adding the words "with men" after the words "equal rights" and by replacing the words "right of inheritance" with the words "right to inheritance".

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.52, as orally revised (see para.8).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.52, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.21 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

7. At its 44th meeting, on 1 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "An evaluation of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/54/156-E/1999/102) and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon (A/54/156/Add.1-E/1999/102/Add.1) (see para. 9).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/195 of 18 December 1997 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the relevant resolutions and the agreed conclusions, including those on Women in the economy,[1] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome of recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling the ministerial communiqué of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women",[3]

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

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[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3), chap. III, para. 23.

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the rapid development of information technology and other new technologies presents both opportunities and challenges to women, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing also that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further in this context the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, *inter alia*, justice, equity, popular participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Concerned that the continued discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities, and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to and equal opportunity to benefit from development,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular in the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have made women, especially in developing countries, and in particular the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, including through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that small-scale women farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Recognizing the continued need to review the impact of structural adjustment programmes in order to reduce any adverse impact on women, especially in terms of cutbacks in social services, education and health and the removal of subsidies on food and fuel,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Recognizing that the informal sector is a major source of entrepreneurship and employment for women in developing countries and that data collection on its important contribution should be improved,

Expressing its concern about the under-representation of women in economic decision-making and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policy formulation, implementation and evaluation,

Recognizing that the increase in women's participation in paid employment contributes to the empowerment of women and gender equality by promoting the status, independence, self-esteem and decision-making power of women, but also that this alone may be insufficient, since, in general, the burden of household work and primary responsibility of women for childcare can give rise to an onerous double working day for most women,

Stressing the need for a family-friendly work environment, including appropriate working hours, affordable childcare and flexible working hours, and emphasizing the principle of shared responsibility between women and men for the achievement of gender equality,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the 1999 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Globalization, Gender and Work;[4]

2. *Calls* for the accelerated and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the relevant provisions contained in the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits and, in this regard, expresses the hope that the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", which will be held from 5 to 9 June 2000, can take tangible and significant steps to enhance the effective participation of women in development;

3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

6. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

7. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance including microcredit in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment and, in this regard, notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the

[4] A/54/227.

strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

8. *Requests* Governments to ensure that the priorities of women are included in, and that women fully participate in, decisions on public investment programmes for economic infrastructure, technology, water supply and sanitation, electrification and energy conservation, transport and road construction, and to promote the greater involvement of women beneficiaries at the project planning and implementation stages to ensure their access to jobs and contracts;

9. *Stresses* the need for assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

10. *Further stresses* the need to ensure that women and girls have full and equal access to all levels of education, vocational training and retraining programmes in order to improve their employment opportunities;

11. *Urges* States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights with men to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies, access to markets and information;

12. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making and policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, *inter alia*, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

14. *Stresses* the need for Governments and employers, as appropriate, to implement policies aimed at ensuring stability and security of work and to put in place social protection measures that cover temporary, part-time, informal sector and home workers, a majority of whom are women;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

16. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, *inter alia*, increased access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology, and full and equal participation in all decision-making;

17. *Calls upon* developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries, so as to assist the developing countries in implementing strategies to eradicate poverty and promote development and gender equality;

18. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[5]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session; as in the past, this survey should focus on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

* * *

9. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to women in development

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "An evaluation of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women"[6] and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon.[7]

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Add.1), chap. IV.A, para. 4.

[6] A/54/156-E/1999/102.

[7] A/54/156/Add.1-E/1999/102/Add.1.

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Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 99 (d)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: human resources development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 24th and 44th meetings, on 27 October and 1 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.24 and 44).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.10 and A/C.2/54/L.57

2. At the 24th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Developing human resources for development" (A/C.2/54/L.10), which read:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Reaffirming* its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 46/163 of 17 December 1991 and 45/191 of 21 December 1990, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

99-37414 (E) 091299

"*Recognizing* that the well-being of people should be the overall goal of development,

"*Stressing* that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

"*Stressing also* that there is a need for a supportive and favourable national and international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

"*Recognizing* that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and the girl child,

"*Concerned* at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and also concerned at the increasing disparities of income within and between nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

"*Recognizing* that globalization, the information revolution and rapid changes make developing countries vulnerable to the risks of marginalization and to recurring financial crisis,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means of participating more effectively in the world economic system and of benefiting from globalization;

"3. *Urges* increased investments in all aspects of human development, such as education and training, health and nutrition, to achieve universal coverage and the well-being of all;

"4. *Urges also* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, provision of basic social services, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of youth, and addressing the needs of vulnerable groups of society;

"5. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

"6. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations;

"7. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and in this regard encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate the access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, particularly the developed countries, and urges the developed countries to implement

specific actions designed to enable them to absorb increased agricultural exports from developing countries;

"8. *Encourages* policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and technology in general, including by (a) inviting the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to voluntarily donate to developing countries literary materials, information and communication technology equipment to designated centres in order to facilitate improved access; (b) taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communication technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients or interested developing countries;

"9. *Calls upon* developing countries, with the support of the international community, to establish information, communication and electronic community centres in order to provide connectivity and access to information and knowledge;

"10. *Calls upon* the developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities of developing countries for human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of the effectiveness of the contribution made by the United Nations system to advance human resources development in developing countries through its operational activities, and to make proposals to further enhance its impact;

"12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled 'Sustainable development and international economic cooperation', the sub-item entitled 'Human resources development'."

3. At the 44th meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Developing human resources for development" (A/C.2/54/L.57), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.10.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.57 (see para. 6).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.57, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

6. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Developing human resources for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/163 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995 and 52/196 of 18 December 1997, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[1]

Recognizing that the well-being of people is the overall goal of sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and that there is a need for continued support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for a supportive and favourable national and international economic environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and the girl child,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and at the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

Stressing that the developing countries should be assisted so that they can be well equipped with the knowledge of information technology that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Emphasizing the continued need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, *inter alia*, of participating more effectively in the world economic system and of benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments in all aspects of human development, such as education and training, health and nutrition, to achieve universal coverage and the well-being of all;

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[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[2] A/54/408.

4. *Urges also* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, provision of basic social services, poverty eradication, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of youth, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, political freedom, popular participation, respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national policies to promote human resources development;

6. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority, in particular in national budgets, to human resources development in the context of the adoption of economic and social policies;

7. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, programmes and operations;

8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being and, in this regard, encourages the allocation of more resources for this purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;

9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general, including by:

(a) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communication technology equipment and training in order to facilitate improved access, as well as to make funds available for these purposes;

(b) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communication technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients or interested developing countries;

(c) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(d) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(e) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* developing countries, with the support of the international community, to establish information, communication and electronic community centres, where appropriate and in cooperation with the private sector, in order to provide connectivity and access to information and knowledge;

11. *Calls upon* the developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities of developing countries for human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the contribution made by the United Nations system to advancing human resources development in developing countries through its operational activities, and to make recommendations to enhance further its impact;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: international migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 25th and 44th meetings, on 28 October and 1 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.25 and 44).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.11 and L.53

2. At the 25th meeting, on 28 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development, including the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development" (A/C.2/54/L.11), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

99-37420 (E) 081299

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo, in particular chapter X, on international migration, and the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

"*Recalling also* its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995 and 52/189 of 18 December 1997, on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

"*Reaffirming* the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Recalling* that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

"*Noting* in particular that the role of relevant United Nations organizations that address migration issues should be strengthened so that they can deliver adequate technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

"*Recognizing* the majority views expressed by respondents to the survey as contained in the report of the Secretary-General in support of convening an international conference on migration and development, and recognizing also the diversity of views expressed regarding the scope, form and agenda of the conference,

"*Noting* in particular the current lack of migration data and the need for such data, as well as a coherent theory to explain international migration, and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

"*Noting* the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee for Development Policies, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

"*Noting also* that meetings and conferences were held in the context of regional cooperation, including the International Symposium: Towards Regional Cooperation in Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration, the Commonwealth of Independent States conference on migration, the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America, and the migration capacity-building and regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Migration Policy Programme with senior government officials from Eastern and Central Europe at Budapest in November 1998 and senior government officials from southern Africa at Pretoria in

April 1999 and to be held at Bangkok in November 1999 with Governments from Asia and the Pacific,

"*Noting further* the establishment of the International Migration Policy Programme in May 1998 by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration, and the United Nations Population Fund, to be implemented in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments in different regions to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

"*Aware* that the process of globalization and liberalization, including the increasing interdependence of economies, as well as the increasing marginalization of developing countries in the global economy, have contributed to large flows of peoples between and among countries, and has intensified the complex phenomenon of international migration,

"*Aware also* that in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are protected, and to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

"*Recognizing* the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;

"2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

"3. *Encourages* interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

"4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

"5. *Also calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, to which end efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit more views from Member States, particularly those that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of its previous resolution, as well as from the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within

and outside the United Nations system, on the report of the Secretary-General submitted at the fifty-second session, bearing in mind various regional processes, and to recommend ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development, including the possibility of convening an international conference on international migration and development;

"7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action through the regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, such as seminars, expert meetings or symposia, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, *inter alia*, the report of the Secretary-General and also requests the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

"8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session that will, *inter alia*, summarize the lessons learned, as well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development which have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and recommending for the consideration of the Assembly policy actions that could be pursued at the international level, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:

"(a) The results of meetings and conferences relating to migration and development held in the context of regional cooperation;

"(b) The report of the Committee for Development Policy on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

"(c) The report of the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1999;

"(d) The work of the relevant international organizations, bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations in the field of international migration and development;

"(e) The possible mechanisms to examine in a comprehensive and integrated manner all issues and questions pertinent to international migration and development;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session an assessment of migration data within the various regions and between regions, including, where possible, simulation studies on replacement migration, with a view to providing countries with useful information pertinent to migration management and policies;

"10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item 'International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development'."

3. At the 44th meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/54/L.53), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.11.

4. In introducing the draft resolution, the Vice-Chairman orally revised it as follows:

(a) The words "in particular in the context of regional cooperation" were added to the end of the ninth preambular paragraph;

(b) In operative paragraph 6, the word "problem" was replaced by the word "problems".

5. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the Philippines (see A/C.2/54/SR.44).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53, as orally revised (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.11 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo,[1] in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in particular section II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[2] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and in the Platform for Action[4] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995 and 52/189 of 18 December 1997 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the international instruments regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[7] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[8]

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[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

[6] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[7] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[8] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Recalling that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

Noting the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their technical support to developing countries to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by the respondents to the survey regarding the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda,[9] which represented 39 per cent of the full United Nations membership, and that forty-five respondents were in favour of convening a conference, five were partially in favour and twenty-six were against,

Noting in particular the need for more migration data, a coherent theory to explain international migration and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee on Development Policy, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

Noting with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development,[10] in particular in the context of regional cooperation,

Noting also the establishment of the International Migration Policy Programme in May 1998 by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, to be implemented in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments in different regions to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Aware that, among other factors, the process of globalization and liberalization, including the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and

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[9] See A/54/207.

[10] Including the International Symposium: Towards Regional Cooperation in Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration (see A/C.2/54/2, annex); the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Displacement and Returnees in Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, held at Geneva on 30 and 31 May 1996; the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America; the migration capacity-building and regional cooperation meetings organized by the International Migration Policy Programme with senior government officials from Eastern and Central Europe at Budapest in November 1998, senior government officials from southern Africa at Pretoria in April 1999 and Governments from Asia and the Pacific at Bangkok in November 1999; the Mediterranean Conference on Population, Migration and Development, held at Palma de Mallorca from 15 to 17 October 1998; and the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1998.

the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, have contributed to large flows of peoples between and among countries and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are respected and protected, and that it is desirable to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recognizing the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;[11]

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. *Encourages*, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development;

5. *Also calls upon* the international community to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, to which end efforts to achieve sustainable economic and social development, ensuring a better economic balance between developed and developing countries, should be strengthened;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, whenever feasible, to solicit more views from Member States, particularly those that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 52/189, as well as from the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, on the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,[12] bearing in mind various regional processes, and to recommend ways and means to address the problems related to migration and development;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate appropriate action in consultation with regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, *inter alia*, the report of the Secretary-General,[11] and

[11] A/54/207. The report includes information on the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues.

[12] A/52/314.

encourages the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report that will, *inter alia*, summarize the lessons learned, as well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development that have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and recommend for the consideration of the Assembly policy actions that could be pursued at the international level, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:

(a) The report of the Committee for Development Policy[13] on its examination of the issue of migration and development;

(b) The work of the relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations in the field of international migration and development;

(c) The possible mechanisms within the United Nations system to examine international migration and development in a comprehensive and integrated manner;

(d) The need to provide, in consultation with relevant United Nations bodies, an analysis of data relating to migration within and between the various regions;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues".

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[13] See A/54/207, paras. 42-44.

United Nations A/54/587/Add.6

General Assembly

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Agenda item 99 (f)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/53/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (f) was taken at the 42nd and 49th meetings, on 18 November and 14 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.42 and 49).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.39 and A/C.2/54/L.73

2. At the 42nd meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/54/L.39), which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2001, as well as its resolution 53/182 of 15 December 1998,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/53/587 and Add.1-8.

99-39575 (E) 171299

"*Noting* the progress made in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

"*Taking note* of the Ministerial declaration on the South Summit adopted at the twenty-third annual meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 24 September 1999, and the Declaration adopted by the Ninth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 29 September 1999,

"1. *Decides* that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will be held in Brussels;

"2. *Also decides* that the meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 will be organized in New York in two parts, in the third quarter of 2000 and the first quarter of 2001, each for five working days;

"3. *Further decides* that the Secretary-General of the Conference will organize the three expert-level preparatory meetings provided in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 at venues and for durations deemed most appropriate in consultation with Member States;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to organize regional-level preparatory events in collaboration with the regional commissions and other relevant regional and subregional organizations;

"5. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with Member States and in cooperation with relevant organizations and agencies, to organize well-focused sectoral, thematic and country-specific round-table meetings, as appropriate, during the Conference to contribute to the work of the Conference;

"6. *Again emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparation;

"7. *Notes with appreciation* in this regard the initiative of the European Union to collaborate in the country-level preparations through the assistance of its representatives in the least developed countries and calls upon the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and all other relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system to provide support to country-level preparations through their field offices in the least developed countries;

"8. *Urges* the organizations involved in the implementation of the integrated initiatives for the least developed countries' trade development to intensify their support for the efforts to substantially enhance export supply capacity of the least developed countries, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit progress reports thereon at the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings and the Conference itself;

"9. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank to link the forthcoming round-table and consultative group meetings to the country-level preparatory process of the Conference, and to ensure that these meetings make substantive contributions to the Conference;

"10. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as Convener of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure the full involvement of United Nations resident coordinators and country

teams in the least developed countries in the preparations for the Conference, particularly at the country level;

"11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to convene inter-agency meetings, as necessary, to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant institutions, for the purpose of carrying out preparation for and follow-up to the Conference;

"12. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the preparatory process and the Conference and in its follow-up;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives so as to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

"14. *Decides* to defray the cost of participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings and the Conference itself through the use of unspent balances arising from the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make arrangements for substantially strengthening the capacity of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries of the Secretariat through providing sufficient staff and necessary resources, with a view to enabling it to organize the Conference effectively and efficiently and to follow up its outcome while carrying out adequately its mandates relating to the least developed, the landlocked and the small island developing countries;

"16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the state of preparations for the Conference taking into account the consideration of the matter by the Trade and Development Board at its forty-seventh session;

"17. *Decides* that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s will continue to provide the framework for national and international action for the least developed countries until the adoption by the Conference of the next programme of action, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s on a system-wide basis and in the context of the follow-up of all major United Nations conferences and summits as well as in all forthcoming events, including the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the event of a high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development and its preparatory process, and the Millennium Assembly;

"18. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled 'Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries'."

3. At the 49th meeting, on 14 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s" (A/C.2/54/L.73), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.39.

4. The Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.73, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/C.2/54/L.74).

5. At the same meeting, the Chairman also read out a statement in connection with the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.2/54/SR.49).

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.73 (see para. 9).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.73, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.39 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

8. At its 49th meeting, on 14 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/54/271) and the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s (A/54/269 and Corr.1) (see para. 10).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2001, as well as its resolution 53/182 of 15 December 1998,

Noting the progress made in the preparatory process for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration and Ministerial Statement on the South Summit adopted at the twenty-third annual meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77,[1] held in New York on 24 September 1999, and the Declaration adopted by the Ninth Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries,[2] held in New York on 29 September 1999,

[1] A/54/432, annexes I and II.

[2] A/C.2/54/3, annex.

1. *Recalls* that the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will convene in 2001, welcomes the offer of the European Union to host the Conference in Brussels, and decides to accept the offer;

2. *Decides* that the meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 will be held in New York in two parts, in the third quarter of 2000 and the first quarter of 2001, each for five working days;

3. *Also decides* that the Secretary-General of the Conference will organize the three expert-level preparatory meetings provided for in paragraph 4 of its resolution 53/182 at the venues and for the durations deemed most appropriate in consultation with Member States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to organize regional-level preparatory events in collaboration with the regional commissions and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate;

5. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with Member States and in cooperation with relevant organizations and agencies, to organize well-focused sectoral, thematic and country-specific round-table meetings, as appropriate, during the Conference to contribute to its work;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations;

7. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the initiative of the European Union to assist the least developed countries in their preparations at the country level through the assistance of their representatives in those countries, invites the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and all other relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system to provide support to country-level preparations through their field offices in the least developed countries, and calls upon the development partners to support this preparatory process;

8. *Urges* the organizations involved in the implementation of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance, including for Human and Institutional Capacity-building, to Support Least Developed Countries in Their Trade and Trade-related Activities to intensify their support for efforts to assist those countries in enhancing their export supply capacity and trade opportunities and to integrate them into the multilateral trading system, and requests the Secretary-General of the Conference to ensure that information on progress in the implementation of the Integrated Framework is included in the reports submitted to the preparatory committee and to the Conference itself;

9. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, together with their development partners, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, as appropriate, to link the forthcoming round-table and consultative group meetings to the country-level preparatory process for the Conference and to ensure that those meetings make substantive contributions to the Conference;

10. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as convenor of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure the full involvement of United Nations resident coordinators and country teams in the least developed countries in the preparations for the Conference, in particular at the country level;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to convene inter-agency meetings, as necessary, to ensure the full mobilization and coordination of all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant institutions, for the purpose of carrying out preparations for and providing follow-up to the Conference;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the broad-based involvement of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the preparatory process and in the Conference and its follow-up;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and significance;

14. *Decides* to defray the cost of participation of two government representatives from each least developed country in the meetings of the preparatory committee and the Conference itself through the use of extrabudgetary resources, and in the event that those resources prove to be insufficient, requests the Secretary-General to consider all other options, including the use of unspent balances from the regular budget for the biennium 1996-1997 as an exceptional measure;

15. *Calls upon* donor countries to provide financial support for the participation of the least developed countries in both the preparatory process and the conference itself, and welcomes efforts already made to that effect;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and Member States, to make the necessary arrangements, through redeployment and the use of other resources at their disposal, for the substantial strengthening of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries, through the provision of sufficient staff and resources, with a view to enabling it to organize effectively and efficiently the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the follow-up to its outcome, while satisfactorily carrying out its mandates relating to the least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, taking into account the consideration of the matter at the forty-seventh session of the Trade and Development Board;

18. *Decides* that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s will continue to provide the framework for national and international action for the least developed countries until the adoption of the next programme of action at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the implementation of the present and future programmes of action for the least developed countries on a system-wide basis and in the context of the follow-up to all major United Nations conferences and summits as well as all forthcoming events, including the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development, including the preparatory process, and the Millennium Assembly;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

* * *

10. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations on the Least Developed Countries;[3]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.[4]

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[3] A/54/271.

[4] A/54/269 and Corr.1.

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Agenda item 99 (g)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (g) was taken at the 24th and 43rd meetings, on 27 October and 24 November 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/54/SR.24 and 43).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.9 and A/C.2/54/L.45

2. At the 24th meeting, on 27 October, the representative of Guyana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/54/L.9), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

99-36931 (E) 061299

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

"*Recalling also* the adoption of the Agenda for Development and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

"*Reaffirming* the importance of continuing the dialogue in response to the imperatives of solidarity, mutual interest and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

"*Recognizing* the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies between subregional, regional, interregional and multilateral economic potential and cooperation in the process of globalization,

"*Taking note* of the need to assure the coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

"*Taking note* of the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

"1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to further promote international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

"2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be 'Responding to the challenges of globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into world economy in the twenty-first century';

"3. *Decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to its fifty-sixth session;

"4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

"6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item 'Sustainable development and international economic cooperation', the sub-item entitled 'High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership', and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At the 43rd meeting, on 24 November, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership" (A/C.2/54/L.45), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45 (see para. 7).

5. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45, draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

6. At its 43rd meeting, on 24 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/54/328) (see para. 8).

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997 and 53/181 of 15 December 1998,

Recalling also the adoption of the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing in this context the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and international levels,

Recognizing also the role of regional cooperation in promoting complementarity and in creating synergies and partnerships at the subregional, regional, interregional and global levels in the process of globalization and thereby furthering multilateral economic cooperation,

Emphasizing the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization with a view to their full integration into the world economy,

Noting the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of major United Nations conferences and summits,

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

Noting also the past experience of the high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to further promote international economic cooperation for development in the twenty-first century;

2. *Decides* that the theme of the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership will be "Responding to globalization: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century";

3. *Also decides*, without changing the biennial nature of the high-level dialogue, to defer the holding of the second two-day high-level dialogue to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to begin consultations with Member States so as to arrive at an early decision on the date, modalities, nature of the outcome and focus of the discussions of the second high-level dialogue, taking into account past experience and the contributions to be provided by Member States as well as regional institutions and the United Nations system, and commends the continuing use of interactive panel discussions, including with the participation of non-governmental actors, to facilitate the dialogue in accordance with relevant rules and regulations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system, relevant organizations and other development agencies, to make initial preparations for the dialogue, while also taking into account the results of major United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

* * *

8. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the themes for the second high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership.[2]

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[2] A/54/328.

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Agenda item 99 (h)

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Hussam Edin **A'Ala** (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 99 (see A/54/587, para. 2). Action on sub-item (h) was taken at the 50th meeting, on 15 December 1999. An account of the Committee's consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary record (A/C.2/54/SR.50).

II. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

2. At its 50th meeting, on 15 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (A/54/442) (see para. 3).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

3. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/54/587 and Add.1-8.

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Report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.[1]

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[1] A/54/442.